

The Joint Committee on the Rhode Island Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code met in Conference Room “C” in the William Powers Administration Building at One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI on Tuesday January 11, 2005. The meeting was called to order at 2:40 PM by Chairman George Farrell.

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Farrell, Preiss, Newbrook Gagnon, Turner, Burlingame and Coutu. Also in attendance were Executive Director Thomas B. Coffey, Jr. and Administrative Aide Desiree Campanini.

The following appeals were heard:

APPEAL #040016: Mr. Gary Fernandes and Mr. Daniel Peloquin for the property located at 26-32 Main Street, Woonsocket. Captain David Beaubien appeared for the Woonsocket Fire Marshal’s office. Commissioner Gagnon recused himself from consideration of this case. Commissioner Newbrook made a motion seconded by Commissioner Coutu to grant the Applicant a variance from the provisions of 701.9 based on structural hardship, 702.1. to maintain the existing winders in Stair #2, and 704.2 requesting to maintain existing guardrails. The Board granted the Woonsocket Fire Marshal’s Office the authority to grant the Applicant a temporary certificate of occupancy. The motion was unanimous.

APPEAL #R040016: Edward Wetherill, Scott Winkler and Ramzi Loqa

for the property located at 6 Benevolent Street, Providence. (Hope Club) Deputy George Calise appeared for the Providence Fire Marshal's office. Commissioner Gagnon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Newbrook to grant the Applicant a variance for E-7 and E-2 doors to remain at 24 ½ inches. Also a variance was made for E-10 (Main Entrance Door) to allow the door swing to remain as it is and to have the appropriate signage directing people away from the door. The Applicant was given 120 days to complete this work, and no precedent will be set by this decision not only on this building but any future decision with the Board. Commissioner Turner and Commissioner Priess opposed this decision. The motion carried.

APPEAL #s R030006, R030007, R040010 and R040011: Mr. Mark Van Noppen and Mr. Robert Griffin for the property located at 166 Valley Street, Providence. (Rising Sun Mills) Deputy Marshal George Calise, Lt. Richard Silva and Steven Moise appeared for the Providence Fire Department. Also in attendance were Building Inspector Tim Reilly and Mechanical Inspector Frank Babbit for the city of Providence. The Providence Fire Marshal requested each violation listed in the inspection report be voted on separately to ensure no confusion and the Board agreed to this request.

Item #5 (Building 6A) The Applicant is seeking a variance from the provisions of section 5.3.4.6 NFPA 90A (fire damper or 22 inch sub-ducts). The Board tabled discussion of this issue in order to allow the Applicant to come up with a solution to comply with the

code. Commissioner Gagnon made a motion to table seconded by Commissioner Turner. The motion was unanimous. Item #1 seeking a variance from the provisions of NFPA 101 section 7.2.1.3.1 (elevation of the floor surface on both sides of the door.) A motion was made by Commissioner Priess and seconded by Commissioner Newbrook to grant the variance due to structural hardship. The motion was unanimous. Item #2 seeking a variance for Buildings 6M, 6A and 8 remote shut off switches. (No precedent to be set for any future project anywhere.) The Board granted a variance for buildings 6A, 6M and 8 to be labeled on the breaker door and label must be marked "Emergency", at the direction and to the satisfaction of the Fire Marshal's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Turner and seconded by Commissioner Gagnon. The motion was unanimous. Item #3 the Applicant's request for a variance from the provisions of RIUFC 13.8.10.5.6 was denied. An alternative proposal was made by the Providence Fire Marshal's Office to install a municipally connected system in building #10 to be designed to monitor the valves, or an alternative plan of action agreed upon by the Providence Fire Marshal's. A motion was made by Commissioner Gagnon and seconded by Commissioner Newbrook. The motion was unanimous. Item #4 the Applicant advised the Board they would comply with the code. Item #6 the Applicant advised the Board that they will comply with the code. Item #7 the Applicant advised the Board that in buildings 6A and 6M they will comply with code. Building #7 the Applicant is looking for a variance for the trash room exhaust ducts that are not provided with the fire dampers in

accordance with NFPA 90A 5.3.4.6. A motion was made by Commissioner Turner and seconded by Commissioner Newbrook the Applicant requested relief. The motion was unanimous. Item #8 NFPA 101 section 7.1.5 requires headroom shall not be less than 90 inches with projections from the ceiling less than 80-inch clearance. The 5th floor of the building 6M showed areas where the ceiling height, sprinkler piping, and ductwork are below the minimum 80-inch clearance. A motion was made by Commissioner Gagnon and seconded by Commissioner Newbrook to grant the Applicant's request due to structural hardship. The motion was unanimous. Item #9 the Applicant advised the Board that they will comply with code. Item #10 the documentation provided to the Providence Fire Marshal's Office indicates that the tenant separation walls are not constructed of the required ½ hour fire resistance rating required by NFPA 30.3.6.1.2. A motion was made by Commissioner Gagnon and seconded by Commissioner Burlingame to grant the Applicant his requested relief, the walls to be enclosed at the direction and to the satisfaction of the Providence Fire Marshal's Office. The motion was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

Desiree Campanini